

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 1215 - HB 1158

March 10, 2013

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires zero tolerance policies of local education agencies to include the transmitting by an electronic device any communication which contains a credible threat of bodily injury or death to another student. Requires school employees, students, or volunteers who witness, or has reliable information that a student has transmitted such a threat, to report this information to the appropriate school official in accordance with LEA policy. Failure to report such threats shall subject the LEA to a cause of action for damages arising from any injury or death that occurs to the subject of the threatened harm.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact – To the extent an act occurs following a credible threat and there was a failure to report such threat to the appropriate authority, the LEA may be held liable in civil court, causing local government expenditures to increase by an unknown amount. Otherwise the fiscal impact of this bill is estimated to be not significant.

Assumptions:

- Any increase in local expenditures to add this action to zero tolerance policies is estimated to be not significant.
- To the extent an LEA is held liable in civil court for criminal actions committed inside a public school, the respective local government will incur additional expenditures for legal fees and any awards granted in civil courts. The extent of such expenditures cannot be quantified for they are dependent upon multiple unknown factors.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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